



Docket No.: 50099-240

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
	:	
Itaru FURUKAWA	:	Confirmation Number: 5335
	:	
Serial No.: 10/715,437	:	Group Art Unit: 2622
	:	
Filed: November 19, 2003	:	Examiner: To be Assigned
	:	

For: METHOD OF DESCREENING SCREENED IMAGE, METHOD OF SEPARATING  
SCREENED IMAGE INTO REGIONS, IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE, AND PROGRAM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop IDS  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The relevance of three of the five references listed on attached Form 1449 is discussed in the present specification.

10/715,437

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

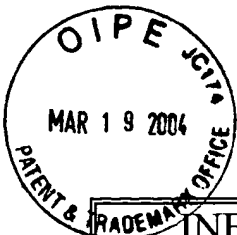
Respectfully submitted,

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**Date: March 19, 2004**



SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
CITATION IN AN  
APPLICATION

(PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
50099-240SERIAL NO.  
10/715,437APPLICANT  
Itaru FURUKAWAFILING DATE  
November 19, 2003GROUP  
2622

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US			
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number 4-Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
	A	P2002-252756	09/06/2002			Japanese (w/ partial English Translation)	
	A	P2000-224415	08/11/2000			Japanese (w/ partial English Translation)	
		01-302475	12/06/1989			Japanese (w/ partial English Translation)	
	A	P2000-236441	08/29/2000			Japanese (w/ partial English Translation)	
	A	P2001-86328	03/30/2001			Japanese (w/ partial English Translation)	

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.